

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Brent S. Sparre
 Assignee: NEC Electronics, Inc.
 Title: Toxic Gas Fitting Interlock
 Serial No.: 10/014,641 Filing Date: December 10, 2001
 Examiner: Kyung S. Lee Group Art Unit: 2832
 Docket No.: NEC0248US

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the non-final Office Action dated May 10, 2004, having a shortened statutory period set to expire June 10, 2004.

The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

Group I. Claims 1-10 and 17, drawn to gas fitting interlock, classified in class 200, subclass 61.86.

Group II. Claims 11-16, drawn to gas fitting interlock, classified in class 29, subclass 25.01.

In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement, the applicants hereby elect, without traverse, to prosecute claims Claims 1-10 and 17, drawn to gas fitting interlock, classified in class 200, subclass 61.86.

-1- **COPY**

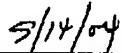
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Please cancel claims 11-16 without prejudice to the subject matter disclosed therein.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 14, 2004.



Attorney for Applicant(s)



Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



Marc R. Ascolese
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 42,268

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